

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
15 JANUARY 1983

Women's march peacefully broken up by police
By JOHN E. NEWHAGEN
SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

A demonstration of 200 women demanding the defense minister resign and protesting a U.S. senator's visit ended in a shouting match with journalists before police dispersed the peaceful rally.

Submachine gun-bearing men in civilian clothes Friday guarded the women, supporters of an extreme right-wing political party, as they walked around a small park in the posh Escalon neighborhood of northern San Salvador.

The women ~~also~~ protested the visit of Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., who arrived in El Salvador Thursday on a fact-finding mission.

The women, supporters of the rightist Party of National Conciliation under the direction of General Assembly President Roberto d'Aubuisson, view Dodd as an opponent of continued U.S. aid to El Salvador.

Congressmen Jim Leach, R-Iowa, and Stephen J. Solarz, D-N.Y., both members of the important Committee on Foreign Affairs, as well as Dodd, were to meet with provisional President Alvaro Magana and former junta President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., a member of the Select Committee on Intelligence, also spent about four hours in El Salvador Friday, according to a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy.

It was believed Leahy spoke with U.S. Ambassador Dean Hinton about accusations the CIA is running a covert operation in the area to destabilize the Nicaraguan government.

EXCERPTED